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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT  
AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): Fumio TAKAO et al

Serial No. : 09/836,998

Filed : August 18, 2001

For : MULTILAYER PIEZOELECTRIC  
ACTUATOR DEVICE HAVING A  
CONDUCTIVE MEMBER ATTACHED  
TO AN EXTERNAL ELECTRODE  
THEREOF

Art Unit : 2834

Examiner : J. Gonzalez

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
AND  
STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97(e)**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

S I R :

Submitted herewith are:

- (1) Copy of a communication (Search Report) issued by a foreign patent office in a counterpart European application;
- (2) Copies of the cited publications; and
- (3) Form PTO/S/08A. It is requested that an initialed copy of the Form PTO/SB/08A be returned to indicate that the publications listed therein have been considered and made of record.

Each of the cited publications is considered relevant or material to the patentability of the present invention in view of the citation thereof in said communication and for the reasons stated in said communication.

Said communication is in English, thereby satisfying the requirements for a concise explanation of relevance.

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I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231

S. Dianne Franklin

In the event that this Paper is late filed, and the necessary petition for extension of time is not filed concurrently herewith, please consider this as a Petition for the requisite extension of time, and to the extent not tendered by check attached hereto, authorization to charge the extension fee, or any other fee required in connection with this Paper to Account No. 06-1378.

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**STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97(e)(1)**

Each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the present Information Disclosure Statement. Said Communication bears a mailing date of October 19, 2001.

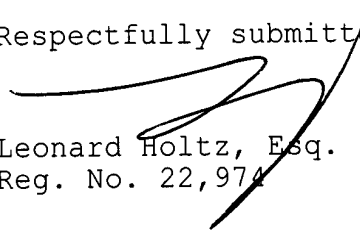
In view of the above, no fee is required for consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement at this stage of prosecution.

**NOT A RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**

This Information Disclosure Statement is not a response to the outstanding Office Action mailed October 19, 2001. A response to said Office Action dated October 19, 2001 will be timely filed in due course. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed at this time in order to comply with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e). That is, the present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months from the mailing date of the European Search Report submitted herewith.

It is respectfully requested that the attached publications be considered and made of record.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Leonard Holtz, Esq.  
Reg. No. 22,974

Dated: January 15, 2002

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